

Appln. No. 03/831,938
Amendment dated February 13, 2005
Reply to Office Action of October 28, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel claims 31-40 and add new claims 41-62 as follows. The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-40: Cancelled.

Claim 41 (New). A data reader for reading data from a recording medium which includes a first semiconductor storage area and a second dynamic storage area, the second dynamic storage area storing free and pay contents data, the first
5 semiconductor storage area storing information to use the free and pay contents data, the data reader comprising:

means for reading the free and pay contents data;

means for inhibiting the reading means from reading the pay contents data by referring to the information stored in the first
10 semiconductor storage area; and

means for permitting the reading means to read the pay contents in accordance with predetermined procedures by referring

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to the information stored in the first semiconductor storage area.

Claim 42 (New). The data reader as defined by claim 41, further comprising means for connecting the recording medium to a server system of a center on the Internet.

Claim 43 (New). An information managing system comprising a data reader that reads data from a recording medium which comprises a first semiconductor storage area and a second dynamic storage area, the second dynamic storage area storing free and pay contents data, the first semiconductor storage area storing information to use the free and pay contents data, wherein one of the recording medium and the data reader comprises:

means for permitting the data reader to read the free contents data and for inhibiting the data reader from reading the pay contents data by referring to the information stored in the first semiconductor storage area; and

means for permitting the data reader to read the pay contents data in accordance with predetermined procedures by referring to the information stored in the first semiconductor storage area.

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Claim 44 (New). The information managing system as defined by claim 43, wherein the inhibiting means is provided on the recording medium.

Claim 45 (New). The information managing system as defined by claim 43, wherein the inhibiting means is provided in the data reader.

Claim 46 (New). The information managing system as defined by claim 43, wherein the recording medium comprises means for converting the free contents data to pay contents data in accordance with the predetermined procedures,

Claim 47 (New). The information managing system as defined by claim 43, wherein the data reader comprises means for connecting the recording medium to the server system via the Internet.

Claim 48 (New). An information managing system comprising a data reader that reads data from a recording medium which comprises a first semiconductor storage area and a second dynamic

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storage area, the second dynamic storage area storing free and
5 pay contents data, the first semiconductor storage area storing
information to use the free and pay contents data, and a server
system on the Internet connectable to the data reader and
controlled by a center on the Internet, wherein one of the
recording medium, the data reader and the server comprises:
10 means for permitting the data reader to read the free
contents data and for inhibiting the data reader from reading the
pay contents data by referring to the information stored in the
first semiconductor storage area; and
permitting means for permitting the data reader to read the
15 pay contents data in accordance with predetermined procedures by
referring to the information stored in the first semiconductor
storage area.

Claim 49 (New). The information managing system as defined
by claim 48, wherein the inhibiting means is provided in the
server system.

Claim 50 (New). The information managing system as defined
by claim 48, wherein the predetermined procedures comprise
payment of a required charge to the center.

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Claim 51 (New). The information managing system as defined by claim 48, wherein the predetermined procedures comprise inputting authentication data from the reader to the server system.

Claim 52 (New). A data reader comprising:

a recording medium which includes a first semiconductor storage area and a second dynamic storage area, the second dynamic storage area storing free and pay contents data, the
5 first semiconductor storage area storing information to use the free and pay contents data;

means for reading the free and pay contents data;

means for inhibiting the reading means from reading the pay contents data by referring to the information stored in the first
10 semiconductor storage area; and

means for permitting the reading means to read the pay contents in accordance with predetermined procedures by referring to the information stored in the first semiconductor storage area.

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Claim 53 (New). The data reader as defined by claim 52, further comprising means for connecting the recording medium to a server system of a center on the Internet.

Claim 54 (New). An information managing system comprising:
a data reader which includes a recording medium that comprises a first semiconductor storage area and a second dynamic storage area, the data reader reading data from the recording
5 medium, the second dynamic storage area storing free and pay contents data, the first semiconductor storage area storing information to use the free and pay contents data, wherein one of the recording medium and the data reader comprises:

means for permitting the data reader to read the free
10 contents data and for inhibiting the data reader from reading the pay contents data by referring to the information stored in the first semiconductor storage area; and

means for permitting the data reader to read the pay
contents data in accordance with predetermined procedures by
15 referring to the information stored in the first semiconductor storage area.

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Claim 55 (New). The information managing system as defined by claim 54, wherein the inhibiting means is provided on the recording medium.

Claim 56 (New). The information managing system as defined by claim 54, wherein the inhibiting means is provided in the data reader.

Claim 57 (New). The information managing system as defined by claim 54, wherein the recording medium comprises means for converting the free contents data to pay contents data in accordance with the predetermined procedures.

Claim 58 (New). The information managing system as defined by claim 54, wherein the data reader comprises means for connecting the recording medium to the server system via the Internet.

Claim 59 (New). An information managing system comprising:
a data reader which includes a recording medium that
comprises a first semiconductor storage area and a second dynamic
storage area, the data reader recording data from the recording
5 medium, the second dynamic storage area storing free and pay

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contents data, the first semiconductor storage area storing
information to use the free and pay contents data, and a server
system on the Internet connectable to the data reader and
controlled by a center on the Internet, wherein one of the
10 recording medium, the data reader and the server comprises:
means for permitting the data reader to read the free
contents data and for inhibiting the data reader from reading the
pay contents data by referring to the information stored in the
first semiconductor storage area; and
15 permitting means for permitting the data reader to read the
pay contents data in accordance with predetermined procedures by
referring to the information stored in the first semiconductor
storage area.

Claim 60 (New). The information managing system as defined
by claim 59, wherein the inhibiting means is provided in the
server system.

Claim 61 (New). The information managing system as defined
by claim 59, wherein the predetermined procedures comprise
payment of a required charge to the center.

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Claim 62 (New). The information managing system as defined by claim 59, wherein the predetermined procedures comprise inputting authentication data from the reader to the server system.